(e) if not whether Government would undertake such an exercise before finalizing investment proposals for atomic power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Capital investment requirement is indicated in terms of installed capacity which is Rs. 5.5 crore per MWe at 2006-07 prices.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The capital costs of Nuclear Power Stations are 25 to 30% higher than that of coal fired plants while the fuelling costs for Nuclear Power Stations are lower. At about 800 km. from coal pitheads nuclear power generation costs are competitive with coal based thermal power generation in view of the additional cost for transporting coal. The cost of generation of nuclear power is comparatively cheaper than that of naphtha and gas based power. Hydro electric power being locaiton specific cannot be compared.

(e) Cost benefit analysis in respect of specific proposals is undertaken before investment decisions are made.

Increasing power generation through NPC

265. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are expecting to increase power generation with atomic fuels;

(b) if so, the investment requirement according to the generation target;

(c) whether Government are increasing the investment through Nuclear Power Corporation; and

(d) if not, the plants contemplated to meet the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The current nuclear power capacity of 3900 MWe will increase to 7280 MWe on completion of the projects under construction. The projects which are planned to be taken up in the XI Plan, on completion, will further add 15900 MWe to the capacity in the XII Plan.

(b) The investment requirement in the Xlth Plan is estimated at Rs. 11409 crores for projects to be completed in XI plan and Rs. 23776 crores for new projects which are planned to be completed in XII plan totalling to Rs. 35185 crore at 2006-07 price level.

(c) and (d) Expenditure towards the capacity addition will be met through internal and surpluses of NPCIL, market borrowings and through foreign credit in respect of imported Light Water Reactors. Investments in respect of Fast Breeder Reactors will be met through Domestic Budgetary Support to BHAVINI and market borrowings.

Attainment of self-sufficiency in nuclear power production

266. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCI) proposes to add nuclear power capacity of 50,000 MW by 2032;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far this would help to attain self-sufficiency in power production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) the present nuclear power capacity of 3900 MWe in the country is expected to increase to 7280 MWe by the end of Xlth Plan on completion of projects already under construction. The Xlth plan proposals envisage commencement of work on 8 X 700 MWe of indigenous reactors totalling 5600 MWe capacity by Nuclear power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL). Four 500 MWe Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) by Bharatiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) are also planned. Thus, a capacity of about 15000 MWe is planned to be reached by 2020 through indigenous efforts. This capacity will be achieved by the Two Government Companies namely NPCIL and BHAVINI Ltd. set up for this purpose. Setting up of 10000 MWe through PHWRs and large capacity through FBRs are pre-requisite for setting up large scale power capacity in the third stage using Thorium as fuel. The efforts of the Government to access nuclear reactors and fuel through international cooperation open up the possibility of further capacity addition taking